

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: P. F. Coleman, et al.

Serial No.: Unknown

Filed: March 30, 2001

Title: A HEPATITIS B VIRUS SURFACE  
ANTIGEN MUTANT AND METHODS OF  
DETECTION THEREOF

Case No.: 6794.US.O1

Group Art No.: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

Express Mail Label No.: EL 507386260 US

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any  
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Date of Deposit: March 30, 2001

*Marilyn Irizarry*  
Marilyn Irizarry

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY  
FOR A UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION**

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that I believe I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled A HEPATITIS B VIRUS SURFACE ANTIGEN MUTANT AND METHODS OF DETECTION THEREOF, the specification of which is enclosed herewith.

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-mentioned specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge a duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

Claim to benefit of foreign application(s) as follows:

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. §119 for the following foreign applications for patent or inventor's certificate.

**NONE**

The following foreign applications for patent or inventor's certificate have a filing date earlier than the filing date of the applications identified above.

**NONE**

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CLB

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Claim to benefit of earlier U.S. application(s) as follows:

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 of the following earlier-filed United States patent applications. Insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior U.S. applications in the manner required by 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, I acknowledge a duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56 which came into existence between the filing date(s) of the prior applications and the national or PCT filing date of this application.

NONE

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

NONE

I hereby appoint the following Attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and any continuation or divisional applications based hereon, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

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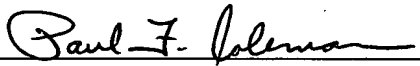
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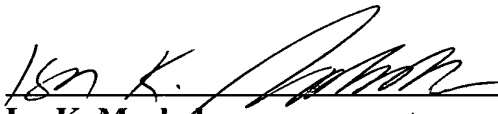
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We further declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that all statements made herein were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Dated: 3/29/01

Dated: 3/29/01

  
Paul F. Coleman

  
Isa K. Mushahwar